**USDA GRANTS AND LOANS**

that Support Farm to School Activities

Funding from the US Department of Agriculture is available to assist farms, schools, and every link in between in feeding kids healthy local meals; teaching them about food, farming and nutrition; and supporting local agricultural economies. While the programs listed below provide a good starting point for those looking to bolster farm to school efforts, other USDA grant and loan programs support local food systems work as well. Visit http://www.usda.gov/farmtoschool for more information.

**NOTE:**
Eligibility guidelines can be quite specific, so be sure to confirm your eligibility on the webpage for the grant or loan program before applying. In addition, non-eligible entities can often partner with eligible entities to benefit from programs they might not otherwise have access to.

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### KEY:

- **Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Grants**
- **Farm to School Planning, Implementation, and Training Grants**
- **Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Grants**
- **Community Facilities Grants and Loans**
- **Farm to School Planning, Implementation, and Training Grants**
- **Specialty Crop Block Grants**
- **Community Facilities Grants and Loans**
- **Rural Business Development Grants**
- **Value-Added Producer Grants**
- **Farmer, Rancher, or Farm Landowner**
- **State Agency or Tribal Government**
- **Non-Profit Organization**
- **Higher Education Institution**
- **K-12 Public, Private, or Indian Tribal School**

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<th><strong>NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION</strong></th>
<th><strong>PRIVATE BUSINESS, PUBLIC BENEFITS CORPORATION, OR AG CO-OP</strong></th>
<th><strong>HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION</strong></th>
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Funding from the Food and Nutrition Service

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Nutrition Education (SNAP-Ed) - The goal of SNAP-Ed is to improve the likelihood that persons eligible for SNAP will make healthy choices within a limited budget and choose active lifestyles consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans and MyPlate. SNAP-Ed funds support direct education, social marketing and public health based approaches to nutrition and obesity prevention. Reach out to your SNAP-Ed lead agency to learn about existing community food systems work. http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/nutrition-education

Funding from the Agricultural Marketing Service

Specialty Crop Block Grant Program - https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/scbgp

Funding from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Community Food Project Grants - https://nifa.usda.gov/program/community-food-projects-competitive-grant-program-cfpcgp
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Grants - www.sare.org/Grants
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Grants - http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/afri.html

Funding from Rural Development


Funding from the Farm Service Agency

Farm Storage Facility Loans - http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/frm_storage_facility_ins.pdf (PDF)

For more information, and to sign up for the bi-weekly e-letter from the Food and Nutrition Service’s Office of Community Food Systems, please visit www.usda.gov/farmtoschool.
Questions? Email us at farmtoschool@fns.usda.gov.

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